

POST-SCRIPTUM

Sunday Oct 27th

she was Catherine Irvener
but her married name
is Rousseau.

Thanks for your letter of the 24th which I got yesterday. I'll write to Catherine & Rousseau

about C.A.P.E.S. But as she's usually very slow in replying to letters I thought I would ask my mate Len W. here in case he might know. His chief language is French & he knows a lot about their educational system.

Well, I phoned him and he came round to see me last evening & suggested it might be as under, but he ~~also~~ emphasized that you must get a check up on it.

It appears there was a thing a bit back which ~~might~~ very well fit into the period of Chardin's letter, and the initials of that could be C.A.P.E.S. It was called:

Certificat d'aptitude au professorat dans les écoles normales et primaires supérieures.

and would fit ^{also} into the sense

of the sentence from Chardin which I'm giving.

He said also there was a thing still used but which obviously would not fit the bill:

C.A.P. Certificat d'aptitude pédagogique

that is abbreviated to C.A.P., but clearly C.A.P.E.S. could ~~not~~ ^{not} very well be used as that, whereas Certificat d'aptitude au professorat dans les écoles normales et primaires supérieures

could, and is, moreover, of the right date.

But he ~~also~~ ^{especially} asked me to tell you that you must check it up, because one can be caught out in such matters, so easily.

I thought I had better ask him & send this to you, owing to the delay there will almost certainly be in getting a reply to Catherine.

So Petra & Juliana are paying you a visit. Give my love to Petra & Juliana.

I was sorry that Robin's natal day was that of Trafalgar - when next I'm writing to him give him my belated birthday greetings. How is he getting on? So Rosalind is with the Ursulines. How does she like

* and if its no longer in use, she might not know about it.
I mean thing of the immediate past or quickly forgotten.
'P.L.' for 'Primrose League' & 'O.L.' for 'Oxford Local' and so on, soon get forgotten.

* Is not Petra's youngest daughter?
She probably never met her.
You must ask P. if my letter to D. arrived safely, in thanks for his sending the EP. MSS.

"Conquest of Ireland" by Henry II. The daughter of Nest and Gerald of Windsor, the King's Steward in South Wales) was called Angharad (her brothers all bore Norman names) & she was given in marriage to Gerald de Barri of Manobier Castle, where Giraldus Cambrensis was born - he was about as Welsh as I am Italian! But it is undeniable that whereas he was evidently 'sympathetic' in the sense of being interested in the native structure of Welsh society, when he writes of Ireland & the Irish, all understanding & sympathy vanishes & his attitude is much the same as any bastard you can think of, including Spenser. It's all very odd. After all in the 12th Century, native Celtic Irish society was ^{not} all that different from native Welsh tribal society - it was of course, more purely a survival of prehistoric Celt dom than was the Welsh, but the intense prejudice of Giraldus with regard to Ireland is much the same as the average English official's attitude to African tribesmen or Indian culture in the last century.

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+ anti to that extent more 'Gaulish', from the point of view of Normans, Angles, Plantagenets & the general outline of Medieval Europe.

it? Glad about the Irish list to her sheets.
I see the Ursulines came first to Ireland in 1771
~~after the~~ & were founded in Italy in 1536, much
later than I was thinking.
~~That~~ the legend of their ~~patron~~ patroness
St Ursula & her eleven thousand virgins is
one of the most extraordinary ~~of~~ all hagiographical
mix-ups. the strange Cologne ^{and the Netherlands} association, & dates
varying from the 3rd to the 6th centuries & with
legend one can think of, from King Arthur to Attila.
perhaps some Bollandist has sorted some of it out
by now - or Donald A.!

The Rock of Cashel sounds marvellous.
To day is the birth day when the trees outside
the windows look truly ^{autumnal} & on the verge of winter.
Yet a day or so ago they looked not so very different
but ~~just~~ ^{just} ~~suggested~~ ^{suggested} in August, but quite suddenly they seem half
bare & the air is chilly & it was foggy this morning.

The Geraldines and Wales. — ah, that's a long story and would take many pages. But roughly, the Welshmen with the Geraldines & other bastards (a lot of Flemings), well then willy-nilly, as feudal levies of the Norman ~~Angvin~~ Angevin conquest of south-west Wales. Yh, Nest was the grand mother of Giraldus Cambrensis & his brothers were part of the shearhead of the Angevin conquest of Ireland. ~~Nest was~~ The Princess Nest was the daughter of Rhys ap Tewdwr, the last King of South Wales, who died in conflict with the Normans at Brecon in 1093. In 1100 Gerald of Windsor married Nest, in part to better his ~~claim~~ the position he had won by the sword, with something inherited right for his sons by Nest. In 1109 ~~Owain~~ Owain ap Cadwgan a ~~son~~ young cousin of Nest's with only 14 followers tunneled under the gate of Gerald's castle at night ^{after burning the place down} and abducted Nest & her children; Gerald managed to escape down the ~~back~~ hole of a privy. This caused an awful rumour, the King (Henry I) intervened, confused & general war resulted. Owain fled to Ireland & Nest was restored to her husband. She was, for a time, the mistress of the king & their son was called 'Henry filius Regis'. In fact, like Belloc's 'Mary Lann' she appears to have had a wacky lot of fun — or perhaps no fun at all, but only a series of forced unions — who can say? * what a lot of bloody savages they were — all of 'em. Incidentally when Owain fled to Ireland he went to the coast of Muircertach 'supreme king Ireland' where he had been brought up — a good example of the close association between the Welsh princes &

* Because of her being a Orvain's
a Orvain's & the war that follow
she was known as the
'Helen of Wales'